

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
and
U. S. Department of Commerce
Weather Bureau

Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Inspection
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
and
Agricultural Extension Service
of Nebr. College of Agr.

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Released 2-24-53 - 11:00 A.M.

Week Ending 2-23-53

WEATHER Temperatures averaged slightly above normal over the extreme southeastern portion of the State to considerably below in the west. A severe blizzard, with very heavy snow over the north central portion of the State, occurred over the western and northern portions of the State during the middle of the week. Precipitation was only light to moderate in the southeast, where it mostly fell as rain turning to light snow before the storm ended. The snow was piled into huge drifts over the western two-thirds of the State blocking roads and highways.

CROPS The damage to wheat from the blizzard last week was not as large as expected. Previous moisture in the Panhandle and some of the old snow covering reduced damage from the high winds. Most of the snow that fell during the blizzard blew off the wheat fields in western Nebraska. Week-end reports indicated there may have been more damage to wheat in southwestern Nebraska. Rain preceeding the snow in the eastern two-thirds of the wheat belt prevented damage from winds and the moisture was beneficial. Light snow following the rain drifted, so very little snow was left on the wheat fields.

Stormy weather the last half of the week put a stop to field operations. Roads were blocked badly in western and northern Nebraska due to the high winds. Generally, the temperatures did not drop until after the wind subsided. The storm was of short duration so that losses of livestock were small.

Shipments of potatoes up to February 20 totalled 3,794 cars, or 400 cars greater than to the same date a year ago. Shipments have been picking up a little. The outlook for small grain seed for planting is more favorable and germination tests are generally good. Some counties report ample commercial fertilizer, others report a short supply.

Cash receipts from sales of farm commodities in 1952 totaled \$1,159,857,000, an increase of one-half of one percent over the 1951 cash receipts. Receipts from the sale of livestock comprised 67% of the total; in crops the balance of 33%. Sales of crops totalled \$383,341,000, an increase of 24%, while sales from livestock totalled \$776,516,000, a decrease of 8%. Since production expenses increased, the net income is smaller than in 1951. Nationally, the net income was only 38% of the gross income.

LIVESTOCK The blizzard was a little severe on cattle. Fortunately, the storm did not last long. A few local shortages of feed were reported but in most cases there is a surplus. Some counties are still reporting a little hay left for sale. The storm caused a few losses of calves and newly born pigs. There were a few reports of losses of cattle from cattle measles (cysticercosis). There is some increase in demand for bred sows. A few counties report increasing interest in dairy production. One county reports sale of dairy cows because of lack of farm labor.

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 23, 1953

Eastern Division

Grand Island .78
Lincoln .33
Norfolk .56
Omaha .27
Sioux City .74

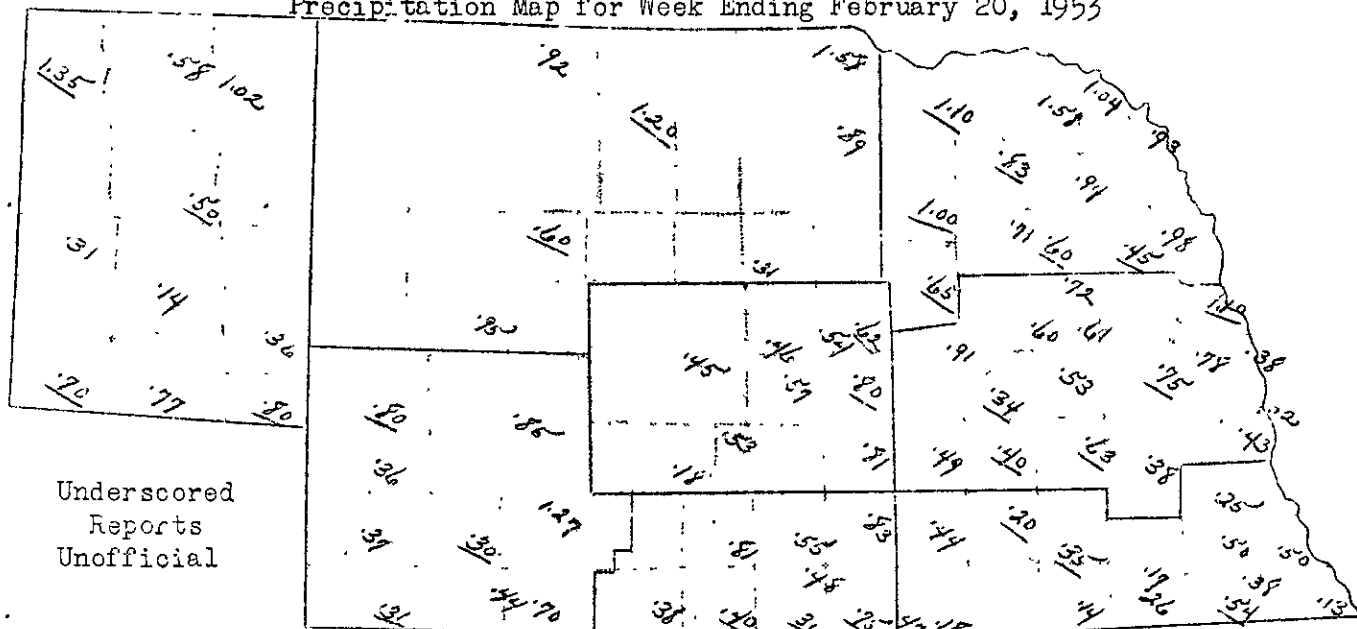
Central Division

Burwell .31
Lexington .18
North Platte .85
Valentine .92

Western Division

Chadron .53
Imperial .19
Scottsbluff .31
Sidney .77

Precipitation Map for Week Ending February 20, 1953



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURES (for 24 hours ending in a.m.)

		February		17th		18th		19th		20th		21st		22nd		23rd	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	30	13	46	21	35	18	23	8	15	- 2	25	8	35	5		
	Scottsbluff	37	21	48	22	43	19	19	7	18	4	28	16	40	15		
	Sidney	35	18	50	25	48	16	26	5	17	- 6	24	8	43	12		
N-C	Burwell	23	7	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Valentine	28	7	42	21	38	18	--	--	11	- 5	18	6	36	14		
NE	Norfolk	11	- 7	39	17	42	28	29	17	--	- 2	11	2	36	13		
	Sioux City	14	- 5	30	14	40	25	31	22	24	- 1	11	- 7	38	15		
CEN.	Grand Island	25	15	56	28	53	33	43	16	20	3	20	10	39	21		
	Lexington	40	13	57	22	57	30	33	11	14	- 4	25	9	41	11		
E-C	Lincoln	21	12	54	34	54	42	45	30	38	7	21	17	47	28		
	Omaha	20	4	40	27	48	38	--	--	40	7	--	--	45	25		
SW	Imperial	41	17	56	23	59	25	29	8	16	- 5	27	3	42	10		
	North Platte	40	15	56	25	54	24	30	9	13	- 9	25	10	40	8		

U. S. Department of Agriculture
203 P. O. Building, Box 1911
Lincoln 1, Nebraska

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